

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Please cancel the claims presently in this application and add the following new claim prior to examination:

1-75. (Canceled)

76. (New) A preloaded, double row bearing unit comprising:

an outer ring having a first outer raceway and a second outer raceway,

a shaft member formed with a first inner raceway,

an inner ring formed with a second inner raceway,

a first row of tapered rollers provided between the first outer raceway and the first inner raceway, and

a second row of tapered rollers provided between the second outer raceway and the second inner raceway,

wherein the bearing unit has been preloaded, by way of pressure-fitting between the shaft member and the inner ring, by pushing the inner ring which is tightly fitted to the shaft member to preload the bearing unit by utilizing interference which produces a larger friction force than the force of the preload, and

wherein, provided that D is a diameter of a pitch circle defined by the tapered rollers of the first and second rows of tapered rollers and P is a pitch in the axial direction of the outer ring and shaft member in the first row of tapered rollers and the second row of tapered rollers, $D > P$.